

Michael S. & Aumpai Powell
323 Lund Rd.
Cosmopolis, WA 98537
360-532-8796

RECEIVED

July 21, 1996

Chris Anderson
Sheri Fox
Department of Ecology
Water Rights
P.O. Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

'96 JUL 23 A9:56

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
S.W. REGIONAL OFFICE

Dear Sheri:

Re: Water Application No. 5229061

I have enclosed a letter I sent to you two years ago today. To date, I have yet to receive a response to this letter.

My situation here is not improving. Without permission from the Dept. of Ecology to use my pond water for domestic use, I can not get a Foster Care License from the State. The reason for this is because this license would require me to install a "public water system" (water treatment), and such a system must have a source of water 100' or greater from any buildings. The only source of water on my property which qualifies under this rule is the pond water I am trying to get permission from you to use.

I currently have water rights to the pond water for irrigation uses and I have been irrigating my apple orchard (where my well is located) to keep my well from drying up this summer.

This is a very wasteful use of the pond water, as only a small percentage of the water actually enters the well. The end result is that I am now forced to negotiate with my neighbor for a portion of his North River Water Rights which you granted him for this property in the '70s.

All these stop-gap measures are not going to solve my problem and get me a Foster Care License. This results in my being forced to continue with my current occupation as a seaman. This places a hardship on my wife, who does not drive and is left alone to take care of 16 acres for seven or eight months a year.

To make matters worse, HUD is suing the county and the State of Washington, over the water issue. Hud claims that the County and state are discriminating against the elderly by requiring a "public water system" for them (the elderly), but not requiring the same thing for my family. (The county has tested the water twice and it is fine).

The "public water system" is not an issue for me, as I have already installed it. The issue is that the County

will not let me use my well water, because the well is only 50' from the house. They (the County) say I must use the pond water, but not until you give me permission to use the water for domestic uses. Then I can get my Foster Care License.

Your last letter to me in January of this year indicated that the Department of Ecology was not working in GH County and were not scheduled to work here. What does that mean? When I submitted my application I was told by Mr. Anderson that I had a wait of about 18 months. I was also told that it is first come first served basis that you work on. Does that mean that EVERYONE in the areas you are currently working in filed before me? Or does it mean that the people in the areas you are working on now who filed after me will have to wait until you finish with me before you deal with them? What was supposed to be 18 months is now 28 months and still no relief in sight.

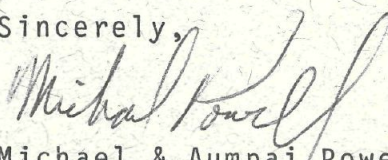
Please, I don't have an attitude, I am just frustrated. I am sure that you folks are also frustrated trying to do your jobs with what must be inadequate staff numbers after the personnel cuts you took in '94.

Anyway, referring back to my letter of '94 and the fact that you folks give priority in circumstances involving changes, transfers and public health. I qualify under all three categories. Changes; I have a permit to use the water, but not for domestic use. We want to change that. The permit for this property was originally issued to the Strunks and we want it transferred to the Powells. Public Health; There are lots of elderly people looking for Foster Care in this county and there is a serious shortage of such care available.

If you issued me a permit to use the water for domestic use, I am sure that I would be able to cut back on the amounts of water that I currently use out of the pond by at least 75% (assuming only 25% of the water I irrigate my orchard with gets into the well). Isn't that what this is all about, water conservation?

By the way, I tried calling, as per your letter, to no avail. If you would prefer to respond to this letter by phone, I will be home most of the time up to August 15th. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,


Michael & Aumpai Powell



52-29061

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'96 JAN 16 A9:26

Michael S. & Aumpai Powell
323 Lund Rd.
Cosmopolis, WA 98537
360-532-8796

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
S.W. REGIONAL OFFICE

January 13, 1996

Chris Anderson
Sheri Fox
Department of Ecology
Water Rights
P.O. Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

Dear Sheri:

Could you please give me an update on my water rights application which was submitted on March 22, 1994?

Thank you,

Michael Powell
Michael Powell

P.S. You may call me collect if you wish.

*Sent Request form
re: Status & letter
re: Dean applicant.*

*1/24/96
JC*



RECEIVED

Michael & Aumpai Powell
323 Lund Rd.
Cosmopolis, WA 98537
(360)-532-8796

'95 NOV -1 A9:00

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
S.W. REGIONAL OFFICE

October 22, 1995

Mr. Chris Anderson
Department of Ecology
Water Resources Program
PO Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

Dear Mr. Anderson:

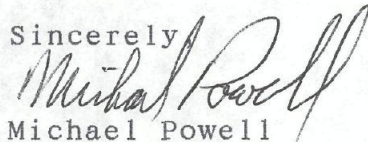
This is to inform you that I have completed installation of a water treatment system to treat water from our pond, so that it can be used for domestic purposes. I believe that this was one of your requirements for issuing a permit for domestic water uses. The treatment includes chlorination and prefiltering through a sand filter, two five micron filters, a two cubic foot carbon filter, and a UV light. The system also incorporates 1,500 gallons of storage capacity. The system is currently installed and operational.

For irrigation purposes I have a Berkeley Pump and a "Wade" irrigation system consisting of 25 sections of 4" X 30' pipe and 25 sections of 4" X 20' pipe.

The Strunk's have relinquished all rights to the pond water on my property.

Should you require any further information, prior to issuing the new water rights, please get in touch with us.

Sincerely,


Michael Powell



Michael S. & Aumpai Powell
323 Lund Rd.
Cosmopolis, WA 98537
206-532-8796

RECEIVED

'94 JUL 25 A9:54

July 21, 1994

Chris Anderson
Sheri Fox
Department of Ecology
Water Rights
P.O. Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
S W REGIONAL OFFICE

Dear Sheri:

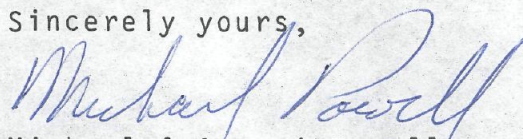
Thank you for the information (Focus Flyer) on your current situation. The Focus flyer states that priority will be given in circumstances involving changes and transfers and public health. Perhaps you can squeeze me in there somewhere? I already have a permit to use the water for stock and irrigation. The new permit would allow me to use the water for domestic uses. It also involves a transfer, as the original permits were issued to the former owner of my property.

I am also faced with a bad situation with regards to the level of water in my well, which has been very low all summer, public health?

I will not be able to add to my existing living areas for my Adult Foster Home until your department issues the new permit (this requirement has been imposed on me by the county building department).

Anything you can do to keep my permit issue time close to the 18 months originally estimated will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Michael & Aumpai Powell



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323 Lund Rd.
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July 21, 1994

Chris Anderson
Sheri Fox
Department of Ecology
Water Rights
P.O. Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

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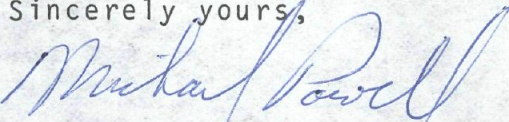
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Anything you can do to keep my permit issue time close to the 18 months originally estimated will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Michael & Aumpai Powell





STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

P.O. Box 47600 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7600 •

May 18, 1994

Dear Water Right Applicant:

As you may recall, the 1993 Washington State Legislature passed legislation intended to enhance the Department of Ecology's program for water right decisions. The bill created a Water Rights Fees Task Force to examine the process for making water right decisions, recommend efficiency measures, and develop a new water right fee structure to support 50 percent of the activities and services surrounding water right decisions. Half of the program's funding for water right decisions during the second portion of the biennium was expected to be generated from new fees. Unfortunately, the task force recommendations on increased fees did not pass the 1994 legislature and Ecology has been forced to cut 35 staff.

With help from my staff and representatives of the many water interests, I have examined priorities for our program. Rendering water right decisions is listed among our new priorities. However, due to specific language in the budget, staffing devoted to this activity has been cut significantly. Effective May 1, 1994, we will give priority to water right applications needed for emergencies concerning public health or safety. Priority also will be given to requests for water right changes and transfers and short-term authorizations for public projects, such as road-building. Decisions on other water right applications will be delayed, probably for several years.

This means that the majority of new water right applications and many applications for change will continue to await decisions. You will be notified when we are ready to work on your application. Your priority date will be maintained during this waiting period.

Please review the attached Focus Sheet for other priorities and more details. If you still have questions, please call the person listed on the attached sheet. To better manage the use of staff time, I have set office hours as follows:

Telephone Calls

Mondays and Wednesdays
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Walk-ins

Tuesdays and Thursdays
8:00 a.m. to noon

Our limited staff will respond to your questions and concerns as soon as possible. Special appointments can be arranged as necessary.

Sincerely,

Carol L. Fleskes

Carol Fleskes, Manager
Water Resources Program

Enclosure

